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Cereals underwent only insignificant variation during the four years. In 1901 the price stood lower than during the preceding three years. For the whole empire (in contradistinction to the Hamburg quotations) the cereal prices show an improvement in 1901 over the preceding period, 1894-98. Spirits (alcohol) and raw sugar have appreciably fallen off. Cotton and wool which in the years 1899 and 1900 manifested a marked improvement sank again almost to their level during 1894-98. Lead was thrown back from 35 to 26.5 in 1900, but it is nevertheless above the level of 1894-98 which was 27.6. Copper went from 160 in 1900 to 154.8 in 1901 but at that, stands higher than 98.8 which was its level in 1894-98. Zinc dropped from 50.4 and 41.5 to 34.8 in 1901 (1894-98 = 29.7). Tin fell off from 253 and 275 to 246 (1894-98 = 134.8). Coal has steadily risen in price since 1897, 24.5 as against 20.7 in the period, 1894-98.

From the tables given (pp. 643-646) the author shows that in the years 1899, 1900, and 1901 the index number of general prices changed, as 63, 75, and 70, respectively. In the two years (1900 and 1901) which showed less economic activity the prices stood above the level of the period (1892-1900). The year 1901 presents a falling back, but it is still above the level of the period (1892-1900). From the indications at Hamburg, it is certain that the increase manifest in England would be less were more articles enumerated.

If attention be especially concentrated on cereals it can be shown that marked changes have not taken place during the past few years. Wheat and rye rose somewhat in 1901, as against 1900, but both years stood below 1898 and 1899 and the period (1879-89) which was itself somewhat low. On the other hand, barley and oats maintained themselves at the height of the previous year over the level (1879-89).

E. E. AGGER.

STUDIES IN ILLEGITIMACY.

Die unehelichen Kinder in Berlin, by H. Neuman. *Die enehelichen Geburten als Sozialphänomen*, by Fr. Lindner. Review, by W. Kahler in Conrad's *Jahrbücher*, November, 1902, p. 731.

An interesting phase of the social phenomenon of illegitimacy is that of the later-life conditions of the illegitimate children. Neuman

undertook to determine what the social and health conditions were of the illegitimate children born in Berlin in the year 1896. The investigator was forced to obtain all his material by private means. He inquired into the condition of 7229 illegitimate children and although in the case of 300 children the various details of condition could not all be ascertained, the work is exceedingly useful. The results of his study, which he gives in 40 detailed and well-interpreted tables, lead him earnestly to exhort that better methods be adopted in the care of illegitimate progeny.

The field of the second investigation was Bavaria. Bavaria used to stand at the very head of all European states in the number of illegitimate births; now it is still found in the second place, having been overtaken by Austria. Out of every 100 born alive the illegitimate were in : —

	1865-69.	1876-80.	1887-90.
Austria	14.52	13.84	14.67
Bavaria	20.59	12.86	14.01
Germany	—	8.67	9.23
Prussia	8.14	7.53	7.81

The statistical data upon which the author bases his conclusions are arranged in well constructed tables. He found that marriage legislation and the industrial policy as well as the general economic and political conditions of the country exert an influence on illegitimate child bearing. Concerning religious denominations,—it seemed possible that an influence might be traced along these lines, since the minority, which holds different faiths, keep themselves morally cleaner than the majority, which clings to one faith (Catholicism); but here also the author points out that economic motives may easily constitute the determinative cause. He is of the opinion that the legal status of illegitimate children has much significance in the number of illegitimate births; he denies also that the country districts show more favorable conditions than the cities. His conclusion as regards civil status, age, and sex conditions are exceedingly general and vague, but he finds a certain parallelism between the total, and the number of illegitimate births. There is also a chapter on the later life conditions but this is based on other than Bavarian material.

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